

1972

January 19, 1972

The Athens-Clarke County Library Board met at the Regional Library on Wednesday afternoon, January 19, 1972 at 4:00 o'clock.

Present were Hal Cofer, Jr., W.W. Wier, Marvin Perry, Howard Stroud, Dr. Tom Harrold, John T. Hurley, Jim De La Perriere, Archie Patterson, Mrs. F.H. Mendenhall, Miss Janette Browning, Miss Natalie Bocock, Mrs. John Wilkins III, and Sarah Maret. Also present were Mrs. Porterfield, Mrs. Wilfong and Mrs. Berry representing the Athens Garden Club Council.

Chairman Cofer called the meeting to order. He welcomed the ladies from the Garden Club Council as well as the library board members.

Drawings of the proposed fragrance garden to be developed at the rear of the library property were shown to the group. Mr. Cofer discussed the plans and pointed out that the Council had raised some \$13,000.00 for the garden. This sum would not complete the garden as originally planned since it would take about \$25,000.00 to develop the plan originally submitted to the board. He said that the modified plan would eliminate the fountain, the arbor and the brick wall and that the Council would like to have the approval of the plan as modified. Mrs. Porterfield, who has served as chairman of the committee raising the funds, spoke in behalf of the modified plan. She said that a piece of statuary would be placed in the garden to take the place of the fountain. She reported also that the committee has received the approval of the Garden Club Council for the changes and that if the library board gave its approval work on the garden could begin at an early date. She said they were setting aside \$2,000.00 for the statuary and that they would commission a sculptor to do it. Drawings would be presented to the board before the sculptor begins work. Mrs. Porterfield was asked who would assume responsibility of the garden's being completed and she said that the Council would be responsible. It was pointed out, however, that when the garden is finished the library would be responsible for its maintenance. It was noted by Chairman Cofer that a commitment had been made by the County Commissioners about two years ago that the additional cost for the maintenance of the garden when it is completed could be included in the library's operating budget. Mr. DeLaPerriere said that he saw no problem in getting funds for the upkeep of the garden. Mrs. Porterfield said that she envisioned the garden as belonging to the citizens of Athens and as being a place of beauty which would attract many people to see it. The landscape architect, Vincent Bellafiore of the University of Georgia would give supervision in the development of the plan when the garden is started.

Mrs. Mendenhall reported that the mayor had promised to give two ginkgo trees to the library and to have them set out. She noted that the library had never been refused any requests made of either the city or county and she appreciated the excellent cooperation received from both groups.

Dr. Tom Harrold moved that the plan of the garden as modified and presented to the board be approved and that a letter of appreciation be written to the Garden Club Council. Motion seconded by Mr. Wier and carried. Mr. Wier expressed appreciation for the cooperation of th

the Garden Club Council with the board during his term as chairman of the board. It was noted that excellent cooperation existed between the County Commissioners, the County Agent and the county work camp in maintaining the garden at the former location of the Regional Library on Hancock Ave.

Mr. Cofer presented the problem of inadequate lighting in the stack area of the library. He said that some lights should be rearranged to afford better distribution of light and some few lights should be added. Mr. Heery had been consulted about the problem and he had had his lighting engineers draw up a plan for rearranging the lights. Terry Construction Corporation had submitted a bid of \$1506.45 to do the necessary work to correct the situation. Mr. Wier moved that the bid submitted by Terry be accepted. Mr. Hurley seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mrs. Mendenhall showed pictures she had borrowed from local artists to consider for purchase for the wall area in the DAR-Georgia section of the library. Funds for the purchase of paintings for this area have been provided by the Radwine fund. The fund amounts to \$300.00. After consideration of the paintings it was felt that a painting by Mrs. Martha Odum would fit in well with the area. It was moved by Mr. Patterson that Mrs. Mendenhall be authorized to purchase whatever she felt was suitable for the area with the money available. Miss Browning seconded motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Wier reported that nothing had been heard about the fountain's getting back into operation but that he would try to see Mr. Bill Bailey, the plumber, and get him to work on installing the pump and rings which are available and ready to be installed.

There was no other business. Meeting was adjourned.

*Barth E. Tharr*  
*Secretary*



May 22, 1972

The Athens-Clarke County Library Board met at the Regional Library on Monday afternoon, May 22, 1972 at 4:30 O'clock.

Members present were, H.L. Cofer, Mrs. J.B. Neighbors, Mrs. Carlton James, Mrs. John J. Wilkins, Mrs. F.H. Mendenhall, T.H. Milner, Jr., W.W. Wier, A.E. Patterson, Jim DeLaprerre and Sarah Maret.

Chairman Cofer called the meeting to order.

Minutes were read and approved.

Mrs. Mendenhall reported on the paintings for the library. A painting by Mrs. Martha Odum has been selected to be placed in the historical alcove and to be paid for with the Redwine money. Also, the painting donated by Mrs. Boyd has been rematted and the frame refinished so that it will be suitable for the same area. The work was done by Mr. Frobus. Mrs. Mendenhall suggested that a glass case be purchased and placed in the library so that unframed paintings might be shown in it at all times.

A discussion was held on the operation of the fountain which has been out of use for some time. Mr. DeLaprerre said that he had asked Mr. Lumpkin, County Administrator, to work on getting the pump installed so that the county might collect the money due for the original cost of the fountain. The installation would be done by Mr. Bailey, the plumber.

Mr. Cofer discussed the garden. He reported that problems had developed about the source of water for the sprinkler system in the garden. It had been decided that water for the garden would have to come from a line on Strong Street rather than tying on to the outlet on the west side of the building. This would require a meter connection and the cost of the meter would be some \$250.00. Mr. DeLaprerre reported that the county commissioners might pay for the meter, but that they had been unable to get a reduction in the cost. The library would have to pay the water bill.

Mr. Cofer said that plants for the garden had been purchased by the Garden Club Council and that they would be planted just as soon as the sprinkler system and walks had been finished. Mr. Cofer reported also that two ginko trees, gift of the City of Athens, had been planted in the parking area. He said that the grounds needed a great deal of work done on them. Soil was needed in several areas and additional plantings were needed around the building. Since it is so late in the season this work would have to wait until fall.

Appointment of standing committees for the year were made by the Chairman. Copy of committee names attached.

The constitution was discussed and it was felt that it needed revising. The Chairman asked Mr. Milner to work on it and to make any necessary changes to bring it up to date. It would then be presented to the board for approval.

The librarian reported that the light fixtures in the library had been rearranged to afford more light to certain areas in the stack area and that several new fixtures had been added. She said that the results were most satisfactory and that the areas were adequately lighted now.

Miss Maret reported that Mrs. Bridgman, children's librarian had resigned effective June 1 and that Mrs. Clare Auwarter would assume this position on June 1.

A letter asking the board members to join the Georgia Library Trustees Association had been received. Miss Maret asked that the board consider ~~the~~ paying the dues of \$4.00 each for two or three members to join the Trustees Association. Mr. Milner felt that this was not a legal use of funds. Miss Maret said that she would check with the Public Library Administrator on this.

The library wishes to install a new method of bookkeeping for the payment of salaries. It was noted that one entry of the salary check would serve as a record for three accountings now being made. This would require a separate bank account for the payroll and would cut down considerably on time saved by the bookkeeper. Also each staff member would receive a statement as part of her check on the amount withheld each month for the several payments she makes such as social security, teacher retirement, federal and state withholding tax and insurance. The board agreed that this would be a good change and could begin on July 1 which is now the library's beginning fiscal year.

Due to a cut back in federal funds the library will probably loose about 30% of its income from federal-state funds this next fiscal year. At present the funds to operate are satisfactory, but with the cut in funds, the operation of the garden and the need for more staff, it may be necessary for the library to ask for a larger appropriation from the city and county.

Discussion on the appointment of more board members was held. Miss Natalie Bocock, one board member, has moved from town and several members' terms are due to expire in September. It was pointed out that before any members are appointed or reappointed they should be asked if they can serve as an active member of the board. Any suggestions for members to be added should be brought to the next board meeting.

Meeting was adjourned.

David E. Maret  
Secretary

July 3, 1972

The Executive Board of the Athens Regional Library met at The First National Bank of Athens on July 3, 1972. Present were, H.L. Cofer, Chairman, W.W. Wier, Vice chairman, T.H. Milner, Jr., Treasurer and Sarah Maret.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the new ruling passed by the General Assembly of Georgia requiring all employees <sup>working 20 hrs or more each week</sup> ~~working in library~~ to belong to the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia. It was pointed out that a grave hardship would be imposed on those of the staff coming under the law to meet the financial requirements of the system which requires 6% of their salary to be turned in. Of course this is a savings for them, but this law came without adequate preparation. The library must pay 7.75% for each member. After much discussion it was voted to raise the salary of those affected by the new ruling by 5.5% in order to help them in their financial dilemma.

*Sarah C. Maret*



September 28, 1972

The Athens-Clarke County Library Board met at the library on Thursday afternoon, September 28, 1972 at 4:30 O'clock.

After a short social hour the chairman, H.L. Cofer, called the meeting to order and welcomed the members. Present were Mr. Cofer, Mrs. Patsy Dudley, Mrs. J.B. Neighbors, Archie Patterson, Mrs. John Wilkins III, Mrs. F.H. Mendenhall, Jim DeLa Prierre and Sarah Maret. Also present was Mrs. Clare Auarter, Children's Librarian, who gave a report on the summer vacation reading club. She invited the members to attend a party to be held at the Classic Theatre on October 14 honoring the children who completed the required reading for the summer.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved as corrected.

Committee reports were given. Mrs. Mendenhall reported that Mrs. Eugene Odum had given the painting which now hangs in the Georgia alcove. Mr. DeLaPerriere reported that the County Commissioners had agreed to pay for the water meter which had been placed on Strong Street to take care of the water for the fragrance garden. The Board thanked Mr. De La Perriere for this contribution to the library and asked him to convey their appreciation to the other members of the Commission.

Mr. Patterson reported for the grounds committee. He said that he and Mr. Cofer had talked with the nurseryman about plantings for the grounds. He said that the fragrance garden was well underway and that it should be completed within about two weeks. Mrs. Porterfield of the Athens Garden Club Council plans to have the dedication of the garden in November, the date to be announced later. Mr. Patterson said that two trees on the grounds needed to be taken down, work needs to be on the islands in the parking lot, the liriope should be replaced in some areas, plantings along the wall on the south side of the library building and along the back parking lot are needed. He suggested that magnolia trees be placed at this point. He reported that removing the trees might be a problem but that this could be worked out. A bicycle rack has been bought and will be placed on the grounds just as soon as the plantings are finished. Bids have been requested of the nurserymen for the needed work, but to date they have not been received.

It was reported that the fountain is now in operation and that the money to pay for its cost had been collected and turned over to the Commissioners. The amount collected was \$8,400.00.

Discussion was held on the recommendation of additional members to be appointed to the board as well as the reappointment of those members whose terms have expired. The chairman had talked with those who were up for reappointment. Miss Brown said that she had become a member of another board and does not wish reappointment. Dr. Harrold would like to be replaced as he has been unable to attend meeting regularly. It was suggested by Mr. DeLaPerriere that several names be submitted to the appointing bodies and that from these a member or members would be chosen. The chairman said that the committee under the direction of Mr. Wilson would choose the persons to be recommended for the board.

The Director reported that federal funds had been cut for fiscal 1972-73 and that the proposed budget submitted to the commissioners had included a small increase from the county and that this increase had been approved. The increase amounted to \$5,000.00 per year. A similar amount will be asked from the city.

Mrs. Wilkins, chairman of the public relations committee, said that she would be glad to work with the library staff in promoting programs sponsored by the library.

Miss Maret reported that several new staff members had been employed to fill vacancies. Mrs. Auwarter has been employed as children's librarian, Mrs. Vernon as bookmobile driver and Mrs. Jan Harrison as typist in the cataloging department. She reported that Mrs. Kidd, the bookkeeper, had resigned and that she had talked with two persons who might be able to fill this position, but that they had had no bookkeeping experience. Approval was given to the Director to employ the best qualified person.

Mr. Cofer reported that under a new state law all persons who work in the library twenty or more hours per week must come under the Teacher Retirement System. Minutes of the executive board meeting in which action was taken on increasing the salary of those affected by the ruling were read. The increase was allowed to relieve the financial burden of the members affected by the new ruling. The board, by common consent, approved the action of the executive committee.

Mrs. Joan Biles of Winterville has asked that consideration be given to the organization of a small branch library in Winterville. A visit has been made to Winterville by Mrs. Riesbol and Miss Maret. They looked over the suggested quarters- the railway station in the center of town. This should be a very desirable place for a library and tentative approval has been given for the establishment of a branch library here. The library would be established on a trial basis to see how much interest was shown in it. It was suggested that voluntary help be employed, that Winterville furnish the quarters, including heat and lights and that the Regional Library furnish the books. Mrs. Biles said that some of the local women's groups could secure paint and fix up the building. The board was enthusiastic over the plan. It was moved by Mr. Patterson that the establishment of the library be approved. Motion seconded by Mrs. Mendenhall. Motion carried.

It was announced that a Trustees Workshop would be held in the Regional Library on Sunday, November 19. It would include library board members from all of northeast Georgia. Mrs. Mendenhall is serving as local arrangements chairman. She said that she was counting on the Athens-Clarke County library board to help with the Workshop, including leading some of the discussion groups. A letter from Delmas Wheeler, chairman of the Georgia Library Trustees Association, telling of the workshop was given to the members.

There was no other business. Meeting adjourned.

*Darsh E. Thant*  
*Secretary*



December 20, 1972

The Athens-Clarke County Library Board met at the Regional Library on Wednesday afternoon, December 20, 1972 at 4:30 o'clock. Present were, H.L. Cofer, Jr., Mrs. F.H. Mendenhall, W.W. Wier, Archie Patterson, T.H. Milner, Howard Stroud, Marvin Perry, Troutman Wilson, Jim De La Perriere and Sarah Maret. Also present was Carlton Thaxton, Director of Public Library Service, State Department of Education.

After a short social hour the Chairman, H.L. Cofer, Jr., introduced Mr. Thaxton who told of the proposed program in which the Department of Education would apply for federal funds to conduct a project in Athens. This program would be carried out by the Clarke County School District as prime sub-contractor with the Regional Library and Model Cities cooperating with the school district. He gave the background of the project. Mr. Henry Drennon of the Office of Education in HEW was visiting in Atlanta and suggested that a project be submitted in which a learning center would be set up in Athens. The state staff of the Public Library Service suggested that a project be written in which the center would serve the family as a whole. Family groups would visit the center together for learning by way of books, films, filmstrips and recordings. They would be educated in the use of library materials and would hopefully become library users. Several meetings were called involving the Regional Library staff, Model Cities staff, the University of Georgia Library staff and the staff of the Clarke County School District with the result that a letter of intent was submitted to HEW. The project was called the Family Enrichment Center. He said we are now ready to write a three year proposal for such a project. It will not involve any local funds, but will be entirely supported by federal funds. Local supervision will be given by the sub-contractor, the Clarke County School District staff. The school board has agreed to participate in the program. Mr. Thaxton asked if the Regional Library Board would give their approval of such a project. For the first year \$300,000 is being requested. The total program for the three years would cost \$1 1/2 million. This is the first project of this type which has ever been proposed to HEW. A realistic beginning date would be around February 1-15. After several questions from Board members, it was moved by Mrs. Mendenhall that the Board favored the pursuit of this project. Motion seconded. Motion carried.

The Fragrance Garden dedication was reported on by Mr. Cofer. He also reported that a number of bricks were left over after the construction of the brick wall and that Mrs. Porterfield had said that the library could have these bricks. Mr. Raymond Tate, who had built the wall, had been contacted about completing the wall to the back line of the garden. Mr. Tate reported that he could do this with the bricks available if the wall was lowered as it approached the hill. This could be done for \$235.00. After some discussion, Mr. Wilson moved that the wall be completed, the cost not to exceed \$235.00. Mr. Stroud seconded motion. Motion carried.

The chairman also asked if Mr. Patterson and the grounds committee could be given authority to complete some of the plantings on the library grounds. He said that the Classic Nursery had submitted bids to do the planting in three phases and that the total cost would be some \$3,000, but that he felt that this would be too much to undertake at one time. He reported that Northeast Georgia Nursery had not submitted a bid yet. Mr. Milner moved that Chairman Cofer and Mr. Patterson of the Grounds Committee be authorized to complete as much of the

project as we have money for. Mr. Wier seconded motion. Motion carried.

The Chairman reported that the budget was cut by some \$300.00 in federal funds over what we had expected when the budget was made.

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Mr. Patter/ reported that an ag engineer student had been employed to work in the yard at the rate of \$2.00 per hour and that he was pleased with the work he was doing.

Miss Maret reported that the xxme recently hired bookmobile driver had resigned and that a new driver is being sought. Also, she said that Mrs. Patricia Stauffer has been employed as bookkeeper and that she is doing well in her job.

Miss Maret reported that she had been trying to get roof leaks in the center section of the work room repaired for some time and that she had finally gotten someone from Terry Development to come to the library when it was raining to locate the leak. Hopefully the repairs should be made at an early date.

prospective

Names of several new/board members were brought up. The chairman said that several names will be submitted to the appointing agencies. He asked that anyone who has other names to present to please turn them over to him. Names submitted will be contacted before they are presented to the governing bodies for consideration.

The wage scale of the employees of the library needs to be reviewed according to the chairman. Some are not being paid adequately. Mr. Stroud moved that the finance committee and the chairman of the board review the budget and be given authority to make the necessary adjustments in wages which are deemed feasible. Mr. Patterson seconded motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Wier moved that the chairmen and the director of the library work out a salary supplement for the employees of the library and that the scale of of the past year be used as a guideline. Mr. Milner seconded motion. Motion carried.

Miss Maret showed a "no parking" sign which had been prepared for the library parking lot and asked the board for their permission to have it mounted in the lot. Permission was given and Mr. De La Perriere suggested that the county mount the sign for the library. It was pointed out that the barrier posts which had been placed in front of the light posts were being pushed over by cars bumping into them. She asked that a bar be placed on the ground to stop the cars. The county had consented to placing the bars where needed.

Mrs. Mendenhall reported that a statue of Dickens had been given to the library by Mrs. James Wood. It was shown to the group. The statue would need some restoration and also a stand upon which to mount it. It was suggested that a committee pass on gifts which are offered to the library. It was pointed out that the building committee would be the proper committee for this function.

Mrs. Mendenhall reported that Crawford W. Long's medical chest was bought by the library many years ago for \$50.00 and that she felt it should be placed in the museum at Jefferson or that a proper case be bought for it so that it could be on display to the public. After some discussion it was decided that a case should be bought.

the cost to  
board members

Mrs. Mendenhall and Mart were to choose a book had prorated Mr. Mendenhall asked the board if the members would like to contribute to the purchase of a book in memory of Richard Bloodworth. Also, it was suggested that proper resolutions should be drawn up in his memory. Mr. Milner was asked to draw up the resolutions.

Meeting adjourned. Sarah E. Mait  
Secretary